

said data communication system.

14. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein,

a number of said multiplicity of communication ports are dedicated to interconnection to host computers and the remainder of said communicative parts are interconnectable with base transceiver units.

15. As a further improvement, said apparatus including a portable code reader with processing and transmitting units for radiating information in the form of electromagnetic waves, a stationary receiver physically separated from the code reader, and a data processor coupled to the stationary receiver, wherein the improvement comprises:

a network controller member having a multiplicity of communication ports thereon, said network controller member intercommunicative with said data processor at one of said communication ports, said network controller member intercommunicative with said stationary receiver at another of said communication ports, said network controller member selectively operable with said data processor at one or more communication rates.

16. The invention of claim 15 wherein

said network controller member selectively operable with said stationary receiver at one or more communication rates.

17. The invention of claim 15 wherein

said network controller selectively intercommunicative with a diagnostic device over one of said communication ports.

18. The invention of claim 15 wherein

FOOTNOTES 642660

a second data processor associated with said network controller and intercommunicative therewith.

19. The invention of claim 15 wherein

a multiplicity of stationary receivers intercommunicative with said network controller.

20. The invention of claim 15 wherein

said network controller selectively operable to communicate with said data processor at more than one data transfer rate.

FOIA b 7 - 6422660